The Debian FTP Team
Masters, Assistants, Trainees
Motto: Fuck it! What could possibly go wrong?

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   - FTP Assistant
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   - Bug triage
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   - Join the team

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History - Scripts

Motto: Fuck it! What could possibly go wrong?

- Ian Murdock/Jackson makeshift scripts
- Monolithic perl dinstall written by Guy Maor
  - Not exactly secure: upload, shipit
  - Not even using PGP either.
- Katie: a rewrite in python. Known as DAK.
History - Hosting

Oh fuck, what just went wrong?

- Under a desk @ cmich.edu

- First master.d.o by Bdale @ HP
  It was an HP Vectra 486 tower system with 66mhz CPU upgrade, an Adaptec 1740A EISA SCSI controller and two disk drives. A 330Mb root disk and a 660Mb disk to hold the archive. Both were 5.25full-height drives. All the pieces came off pallets of materials heading out for scrap. Before it left Bdale the archive disk got swapped out for a 1.3Gb drive, also 5.25full height scsi and a cast-off heading for scrap.

  The first machine to host debian.org using Debian.
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  The first machine to host .debian.org using Debian.

- Moved to I-Connect

- Then to Novare for several years

- Then to Visi.Net, as ‘ftp-master.d.o’

- Relocated to above.net

- Then to the HP DC in Ft. Collins

- Currently at Brown.edu
That guy impressed me and I am not easily impressed. Wow. BLUE Hair

**Architectures / Releases:**

- **Bo** 1: i386
- **Hamm** 2: + m68k
- **Slink** 4: + sparc, alpha
- **Potato** 6: + powerpc, arm
- **Woody** 11: + mips, mipsel, hppa, ia64, s390
- **Sarge** 11 (unofficial amd64 release)
- **Etch** 11: + amd64, - m68k (there is a semi-official etch-m68k release)
- **Lenny** 12: + armel
- **Squeeze** ?: + kfreebsd-i386, kfreebsd-amd64, - arm, ...

**Proposed Architectures:**

- avr32
- sh{3,4}
Ganneff - if it goes wrong, we make it “Fuck it what do we care?”, but dont tell anyone.

- Releases:
  - Buzz 229Mb
  - Rex 306Mb
  - Bo 1.2Gb
  - Hamm 2.1Gb
  - Slink 4.1Gb
  - Potato 6.7Gb
  - Woody 27Gb
  - Sarge 57Gb
  - Etch 82Gb
  - Lenny 125Gb
  - squeeze+X 1Tb?
History - Archive size

Ganneff - if it goes wrong, we make it “Fuck it what do we care?”, but dont tell anyone.

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  - squeeze+X 1Tb?

- Daily pushes:
  - 2005 200Mb up to 2Gb, average 1Gb. Once a day.
  - 2009 1Gb up to 6Gb, average 2Gb. 4 times a day.
History - Team

sgran - the world B.G. (Before Ganneff)

- Ian Murdock
- + later Ian Jackson, Bruce Perens, Bdale Garbee
- Guy Maor takes over (moved to dinstall) [somewhere 1995/1996]
- Richard Braakman and James Troup push in [July 1998]
- James recruits Antti-Juhani Kaijanaho and Gergely Madarasz [Dec 1999]
- Michael Beattie tricks his way in [August 2000]
- Richard becomes inactive [August 2000]
- Work on katie starts (named da-katie) [2000]
- Anthony Towns joins [January 2001]
- Guy becomes inactive [February 2001]
- Ryan Murray is added [June 2001]
- Randall Donald joins [November 2001]
- Daniel Silverstone follows [August 2003]
Team restructured, Assistants role added [March 2005]
Joerg Jaspert and Jeroen van Wolffelaar join as Assistants [March 2005]
Kalle Kivimaa and Thomas Viehmann join as Assistants [February 2008]
Joerg Jaspert promoted to FTP Master [April 2008]
Anthony Towns and James Troup leave [April/May 2008]
Mark Hymers joins as Assistant [July 2008]
Frank Lichtenheld joins as Assistant [December 2008]
Thomas Viehmann resigned [December 2008]
Mike O’Connor joins as Assistant [January 2009]
Ryan Murray becomes inactive and leaves [March 2009]
Mark Hymers promoted to FTP Master [March 2009]
Kalle Kivimaa leaves [July 2009]
The Team

Me fail English? That’s unpossible.

FTP Masters
- Joerg Jaspert - Ganneff
- Mark Hymers - mhy

FTP Assistants
- Frank Lichtenheld - djpig
- Mike O’Connor - stew

FTP Trainee
- Barry deFreese - bdefreese
- You?!

Since April 2008 we almost always had people in the FTP Trainee role.
FTP Master

Don’t you kids take anything. I’m watching you. I’ve got eye implants in the back of my head.

The FTP Master role, unix group `debsadmin`, is ...

(Lets cite Matthew Garrett)

... responsible for maintaining the infrastructure required to support the archive. This takes the form of the scripts used for processing uploaded packages, but also the flow of packages between distributions.

- Keep the archive running
- Keep the archive legal
- Support the teams that depend on it (Release, Security, soon backports/volatile)
- Keep the archive updated with the requirements of the project
The FTP Assistant role, group ftpteam, created 2005, allows additions of people to the FTP Team without having to hand out full FTP Master rights. It allows

- to process NEW,
- to handle overrides,
- to remove packages.

Thus the most common actions can be done but the possible damage that can happen by accident is limited.
FTP Trainee

Kids, you tried your best and you failed miserably. The lesson is, never try.
Hello i18n cabal. :)

The FTP Trainee role, group ftptrainee, was created in 2008 to allow easy training and testing of future team members.

- Initially called “slave_NEW”
FTP Trainee

Kids, you tried your best and you failed miserably. The lesson is, never try.

Hello i18n cabal. :)

The FTP Trainee role, group ftptrainee, was created in 2008 to allow easy training and testing of future team members.

- Initially called “slave_NEW”
- 6 people trained so far
- 2 promoted to Assistants

Trainees can look at NEW and do the usual package checks, but they can not actually accept or reject a package. Instead they leave a note, which an Assistant or Master reads and acts on.
Archives

You can’t keep blaming yourself. Just blame yourself once, and move on.

- The main archive, ftp.debian.org
- The security archive, security.debian.org
- (Soon) The volatile archive, volatile.debian.org (integrated into main archive)
- (Soon) The backports.org archive, www.backports.org (-> backports.debian.org)
Removals

- (Semi)-Automagic via cruft-report
- Manual, with help from a nice html page

Overrides

- Priority / Section
- Override disparity
- Currently by mail, should be changed to using BTS

mhy - I was upset to discover (via grepping my logs) that I actually said that quote in one of the subtitles verbatim
NEW checking is about three things. In order of priority:

- trying to keep the archive legal,
- trying to keep the package namespace sane,
- trying to reduce the number of bugs in Debian.

A small list of most common checks

- Check the source for license problems
  - incompatibility
  - non-free license terms
- (sane) package renames / splits
- Policy violation
- source for everything included?
- ...

Joerg Jaspert (DebConf9)
Code

Oh, so they have Internet on computers now!

git clone https://ftp-master.debian.org/git/dak.git

- Python
- and some Shell
- and some Perl
- at least 9 years old
- at minimum 40 different authors
Join the Army, err, QA Team

mhy - oh god. Ganneff has been on TV? I’m surprised the sets didn’t all explode

- Do QA work
- File removal bugs for unmaintained, outdated or otherwise no longer needed packages
Bug triage

I am so smart! I am so smart! S-M-R-T! I mean S-M-A-R-T...

- Retitle bugs to fit our removal format
- Close bugs that don’t apply (anymore)
- Make sure removals can happen (rev-deps anyone?)
Write Code

I’m normally not a praying man, but if you’re up there, please save me Superman.
Join the team

Hi, my name’s Moe. Or as the ladies like to refer to me, ’hey you in the bushes’

Join us. Mail ftpmaster@debian.org.
Join us. Mail ftpmaster@debian.org.
Join us. Mail ftpmaster@debian.org.
Join us. Mail ftpmaster@debian.org NOW.
The future

Facts are meaningless. You could use facts to prove anything that’s even remotely true!

- Replace database code in dak with sqlalchemy
- source v3
- Split long description out of Packages files, make it nothing than another translation
- debtags integration, sections death
- tdebs
- ddebs
- lintian autorejects
- autosigning
- binary throw away
- ...

Joerg Jaspert (DebConf9)
Thank you for sleeping through this talk
Ganneff - (trust full, when had i been that drunk?)

Joerg Jaspert
ftpmaster@debian.org
http://ftp-master.debian.org/
https://ftp-master.debian.org/git/dak.git